

## ***School Readiness (SR)***

### ***Child Attendance and Provider Reimbursements***

### ***Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)***

The purpose of this FAQ is to provide guidance reimbursing SR providers effective July 1, 2025, and reflects only the components of the rule that have changed. View Rule 6M-4.500, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), [here](#).

**1. When will Rule 6M-4.500, F.A.C., take effect?**

Implementation of the rule will take effect July 1, 2025.

**2. When a child is terminated for excessive unexplained absences, does a provider receive reimbursement for the date of termination or the last date of attendance?**

A provider is reimbursed for the last date of attendance not to exceed thirteen absences and not beyond the end of the child's current authorization period.

**3. How is provider reimbursement determined for contracted providers outside of the coalition's service area?**

The provider's reimbursement rates are paid based on the county where the provider is physically located, the child's care level and unit of care.

**4. Why did the maximum number of holidays change from 12 to 13?**

Rule 6M-4.500, F.A.C., now allows providers to select one reimbursable staff training day.

**5. Must a provider have a staff training day?**

No, a staff training day is voluntary.

**6. How does a provider reflect a staff training day in the SR provider contract?**

In Exhibit 6 of the SR provider contract, the provider clicks the date field and selects the date of its staff training in the "Date Observed" column, then types "staff training day" in the "Holiday" column.

**7. When will the SR contract be updated to reflect the staff training day?**

Exhibit 6 of the 2025-26 provider contract within the Portal reflects a 13th row for this purpose. At a future date, DEL will officially amend Rule 6M-4.610, F.A.C., to update clauses within the provider contract and amendment and any other incorporated forms.

**8. How does a provider amend the total number of holidays in the provider contract?**

A provider follows the normal process of amending its executed contract. For 2025-26, in the SR-20A, Amendment to the SR Contract, "Number of Holidays" clause, the blanks will accommodate the number 13 within the Portal. At a future date, DEL will officially amend Rule 6M-4.610, F.A.C., to update clauses within the provider contract and amendment and any other incorporated forms.

**9. What are the requirements for acceptable training for a staff training day?**

- Training must be delivered in one staff training day to receive reimbursement.
- Training must occur for at least 50% of a provider's approved daily schedule. Providers that offer care for more than a 10-hour day are held to a 5-hour training day. Providers that offer a combination of SR care must provide training for 50% of the provider's greatest approved daily schedule.
- Training must be meaningful, support the learning environment and work of the SR child care personnel and align with at least one of the following:
  - Florida Early Learning and Developmental Standards.
  - Any of the Florida Standards and Key Competencies listed in Form OEL-SR 735.
  - Department of Children and Families training.

**10. What documentation must a provider maintain for a staff training day?**

A provider must maintain a:

- Detailed agenda showing topics and the timeframes for each topic and
- Sign-in sheet reflecting attendance of at least 75% of SR child care personnel.

**11. How is a provider reimbursed for a staff training day?**

The staff training day functions as a "holiday" closure. The coalition will reimburse the provider its typical reimbursement rate per child/enrollment in accordance with the child's authorized schedule for that date.

**12. When will a provider serving a school age child receive a part-time (PT) provider reimbursement?**

If a school age child is authorized PT care for the day(s) attended, the provider will receive a PT reimbursement, whether the provider is open or closed on a coalition-approved holiday.

**13. When will a provider serving a school age child receive a full-time (FT) provider reimbursement?**

If a school age child is authorized FT care for the day(s) attended, the provider will receive a FT reimbursement, whether the provider is open or closed on a coalition-approved holiday.

**14. When will the removal of the 4% Quality Performance Incentive (QPI) differential take effect?**

This will take effect July 1, 2025, and will be reflected in providers' contracts. Coalitions are encouraged to proactively communicate this change to their provider community.

**15. What is the minimum score needed to qualify for a QPI differential?**

An eligible SR provider that receives a program assessment composite score at or above 5.00 qualifies for a differential.